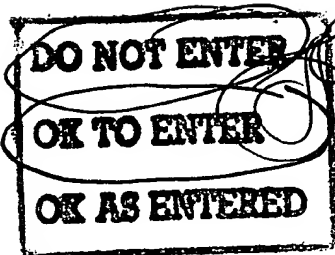


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PATENT APPLICATION

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TECHNOLOGY CENTER ART UNIT 1734

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Alain BETHUNE

Group Art Unit: 1734

Application No.: 09/688,961

Examiner: J. Lorengo

Filed: October 17, 2000

Docket No.: 107615

For: METHOD OF HOT MARKING, AND A MULTILAYER STRUCTURE FOR
IMPLEMENTING SUCH A METHOD

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 CFR §1.116

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In reply to the October 22, 2002 Office Action, please amend the above-identified
application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 23 without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter
contained therein.

Please replace claims 1 and 24 as follows:

- 1/ (Twice Amended) A hot marking method enabling decoration to be made
on an article, comprising:
- supplying a multilayer structure comprising a layer of varnish that hardens under
the effect of radiation, a backing layer, and a layer of decoration, the varnish layer being
situated between the backing layer and the decoration layer;

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